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DAVID • LUCAS

THE INCREDIBLE

THUNDERBOLT



The New Avengers and the Astonishing X-Men met to discuss the fate of Wanda Maximoff, the Scarlet Witch—the daughter of the powerful mutant terrorist Magneto. After losing control of her reality-altering powers and suffering a total nervous breakdown, Wanda unleashed chaos upon the Avengers, killing and injuring many of their number. Magneto intervened and took his daughter to the devastated island-nation of Genosha, where Charles Xavier—Professor X, the founder of the X-Men—was to help her recover. Xavier failed, and now it is up to Wanda's friends and teammates to decide whether she will live or die. But Magneto, Wanda, and her brother Pietro disappear...

Then the world burns to white, Reality as we knew it is gone...

...to be replaced by a society in which humans are the oppressed minority and mutants run the culture, ruling over all existing countries, religions, and politics. A kingdom united under the House of M.

HOUSE OF M

Bruce Banner has a secret side that hides behind his unassuming exterior. In times of stress and rage he transforms into something more than human: a hulking monster capable of incredible mayhem and destruction, putting those close to him in certain danger.

Following years of self-exile, he seeks to repress his inner anger so that he may live no longer as a monster, but simply as a man. After finally finding peace among a tribe of Aborigines called the True People, Bruce now finds himself far from where he started—he is the new leader of a freed Australia. The Hulk has deposed the fascist mutant ruler Exodus, and Bruce works with the forces of A.I.M. to keep Australia free from mutant rule.

Humans from all over the world flee to this free country, but after Scorpion saves a young woman on the docks from A.I.M. soldiers, she learns that the girl's boyfriend has just been kidnapped...by A.I.M.! When Scorpion and Bruce investigate, they discover an underground complex where horrific experiments are being performed on human subjects, turning them into cybernetic soldiers.

Unable to contain his rage, Banner loses control and the Hulk takes over! But who is behind these strange, sinister experiments?



HOUSTON,
WE HAVE A
PROBLEM.

HE'S
FOUND OUT!
THE HULK'S
FOUND OUT!

I'M
AWARE OF
THAT.



EVERY PSYCH PROFILE WE'VE
DONE OF BOTH BANNER AND
THE HULK INDICATES HE WON'T
APPROVE OF OUR USING
HUMAN SUBJECTS...

I'VE
READ THE
PROFILES.

...TO
CREATE
CYBORG
ARMIES
FOR...

I
KNOW
THAT,
TOO.

...ATTACKING
THE MUTANT--



SHUT UP, OR
I'LL SHOOT YOU
MYSELF.

NOW
PLUG ME
INTO BANDWIDTH
DESIGNATED
ALPHA ONE.



BANDWIDTH
ALPHA ONE.
YOU'RE ON,
DOCTOR.

THASANE?
CAN YOU HEAR
ME?



MOTHER
NEEDS TO
TALK TO
YOU.



WHA--
YES! I...

MOTHER!
WHAT'RE YOU...?
HOW--?



IS THERE A
PROBLEM?

MY
MOTHER'S
IN MY
HEAD!

OH, MY
FIRST WIFE
USED TO SAY
THAT ALL
THE TIME.



I SECRETLY PUT A
TRANSPONDER IN
YOUR EAR WHEN YOU
FIRST JOINED UP.



YOU PUT A
TRANSPONDER
IN MY EAR?

IN MY EAR?
WITHOUT
TELLING ME?

HOW COULD
YOU DO THAT?
THAT'S SO
INTRUSIVE!

DO I
EVEN NEED
TO BE
HERE?



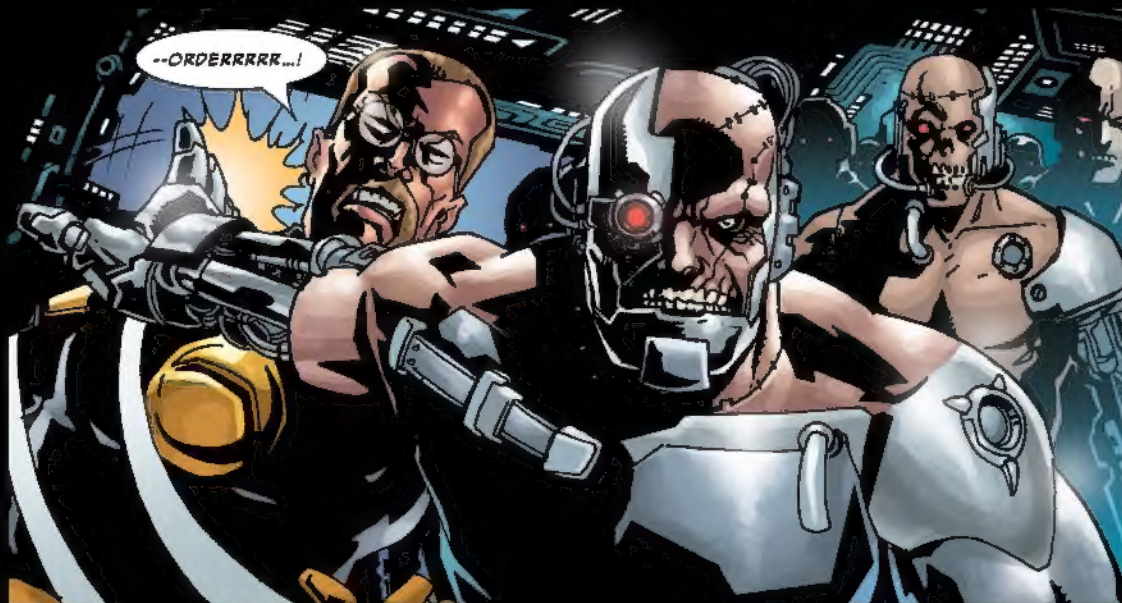
THASANE,
I NEED YOU
TO GET OVER
YOURSELF.

AND I
NEED YOU
TO SAY,
"DORMEZ."



"DORMAY?"
WHY SHOULD I
SAY "DOR--"









YOU'VE STILL GOT HUMAN PARTS! AND MY STINGER CAN STILL AFFECT THO--



UNHHH!!!

KNOCK IT OFF!

MOTHER! IF YOU CAN HEAR ME--!

SCREW THAT, OF COURSE YOU CAN HEAR ME!

STOP THIS NOW! I SWEAR, I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!



YOU HEAR, MOTHER! NEVER! NEVER!!!



OF COURSE YOU'LL FORGIVE ME. YOU'RE... MY LITTLE GIRL.

YOU WON'T STAY MAD AT ME, AND IF YOU DO...



I CAN FIX THAT TOO.

ALL UNITS: DISPOSE OF BANNER AT WILL.





TERRA INCOGNITA CONCLUSION

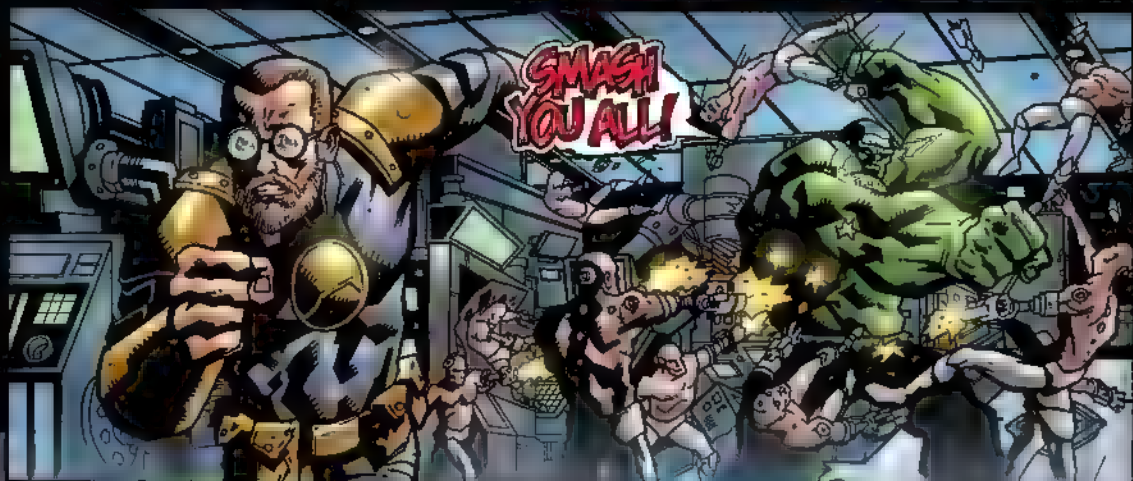
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SMASH YOU ALL!

RAAARRHHH!!!

IT SHOULD BE, 'SMASH YOU ALL EXCEPT SCORPION WHO TRIED TO SAVE MY GREEN BUTT'.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE UNCONSCIOUS! THAT MY MOTHER DID SOMETHING WHILE BANNER WAS SLEEPING TO--

BANNER SLEEPS

HULK... NEVER DOES.

WHOA! WHOA!!!

SO...SO SHE COULDN'T PLANT A POST-HYPNOTIC SUGGESTION... BECAUSE YOU, AS BANNER'S SUBCONSCIOUS, WOULDN'T LET HER, EVEN WHILE HE WAS SLEEPING, YOUR ALPHA BRAIN WAVE PATTERNS WERE TOO ACTIVE FOR HER TO MAKE THE COMMAND TAKE ROOT.

AND YOU WERE JUST PLAYING POSSUM NOW TO...TO...

YOU NEED TO STOP TALKING NOW.

OKAY.



HUH?

OH, MY MOTHER'S 'N SO MUCH TROUBLE FOR THIS.





C'MON, JON
YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S
WORRIED ABOUT
YOU.



CAN'T SAY HOW
SHE'S GOING TO
REACT TO YOUR
NEW LOOK...

...BUT ONE
FIASCO AT A
TIME.



I JUST...I CAN'T
BELIEVE IT HUMAN
BENGS FROM ALL
OVER, FLEEING TO
AUSTRALIA TO
ESCAPE MUTANT
OPPRESSION...

...ONLY TO
HAVE A.I.M.,
USING THEM AS
LAB RATS MAKING
THEM INTO AN
ARMY TO...
WHAT?



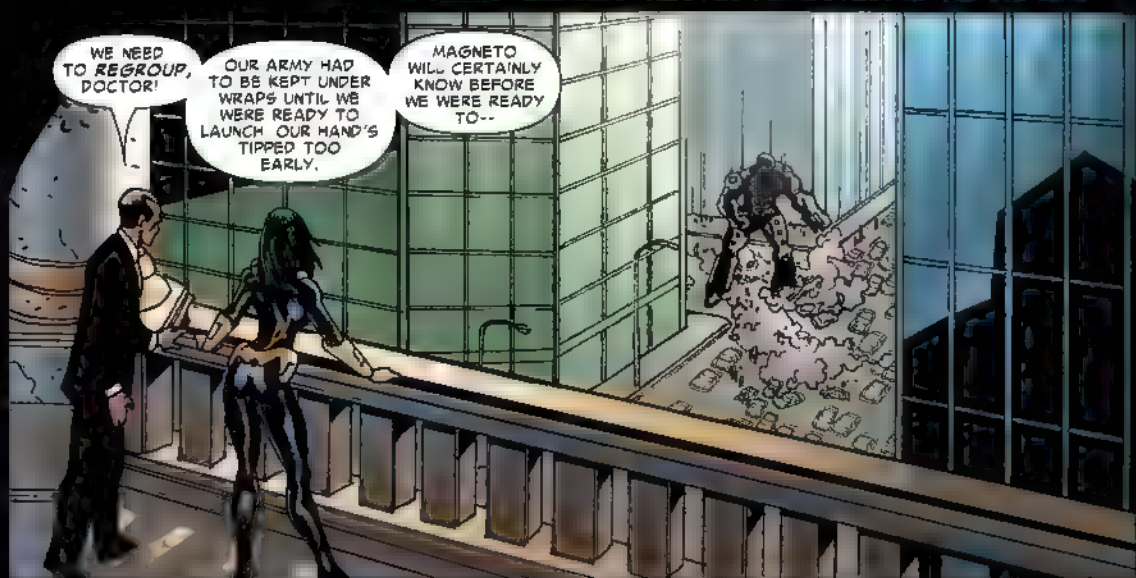
GO AGAINST
THE MUTANTS
IN ORDER TO
DEFEAT THEM?

OR TO
CONQUER THE
WORLD FOR A.I.M.,
LIKE SOMETHING
OUT OF A BOND
MOVIE?



WHOA!!





WE NEED
TO REGROUP,
DOCTOR!

OUR ARMY HAD
TO BE KEPT UNDER
WRAPS UNTIL WE
WERE READY TO
LAUNCH OUR HAND'S
TIPPED TOO
EARLY.

MAGNETO
WILL CERTAINLY
KNOW BEFORE
WE WERE READY
TO--



I CAN ASSURE YOU,
DOCTOR LAZLO, THAT
I'VE ALREADY THOUGHT
OF EVERYTHING
YOU'RE LIKELY
TO SAY.



AND HAVE YOU THOUGHT
OF WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO
SAY TO OUR ASSOCIATES
WHEN THEY DEMAND TO KNOW
WHO'S RESPONSIBLE
FOR THIS?

ACTUALLY,
I HAVE. I'M
PLANNING TO
BLAME
YOU.

OH, REALLY
WITH ALL RESPECT
I THINK I'LL HAVE
SOMETHING TO SAY
ABOUT THAT--



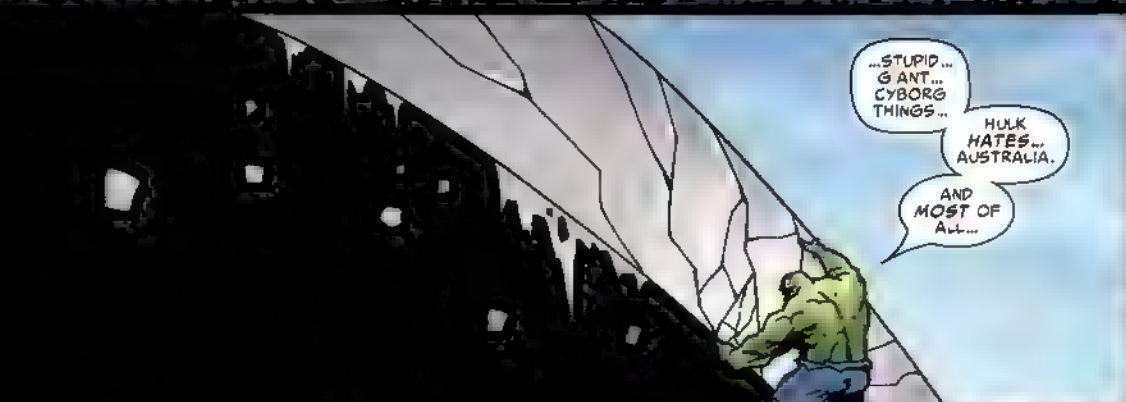
WITH ALL
RESPECT...

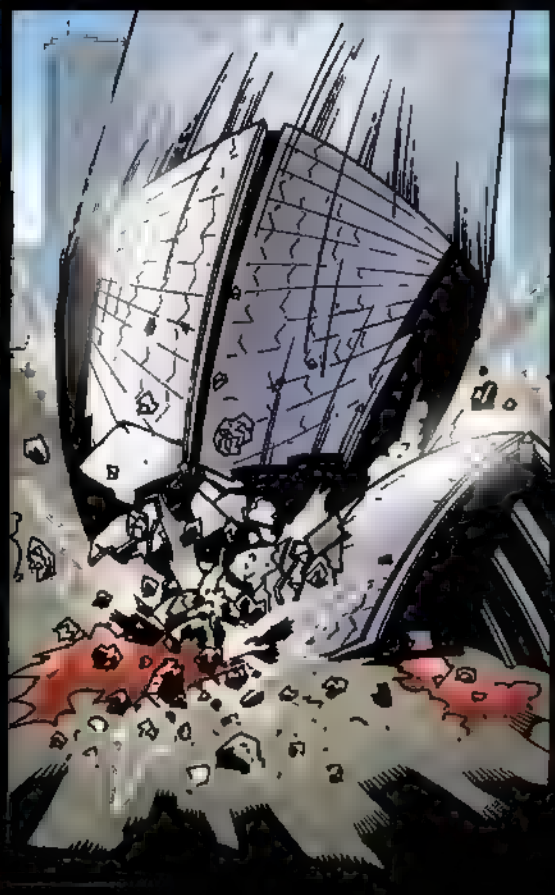
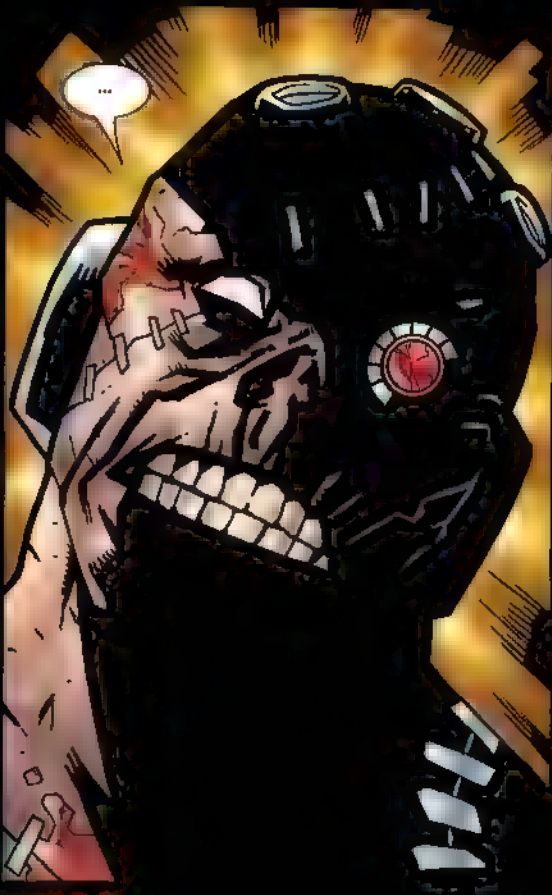
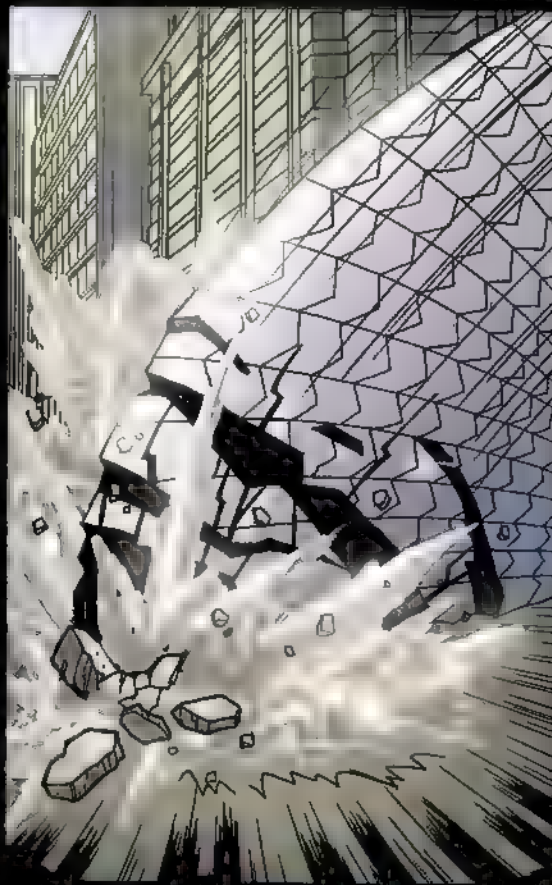
WH--?



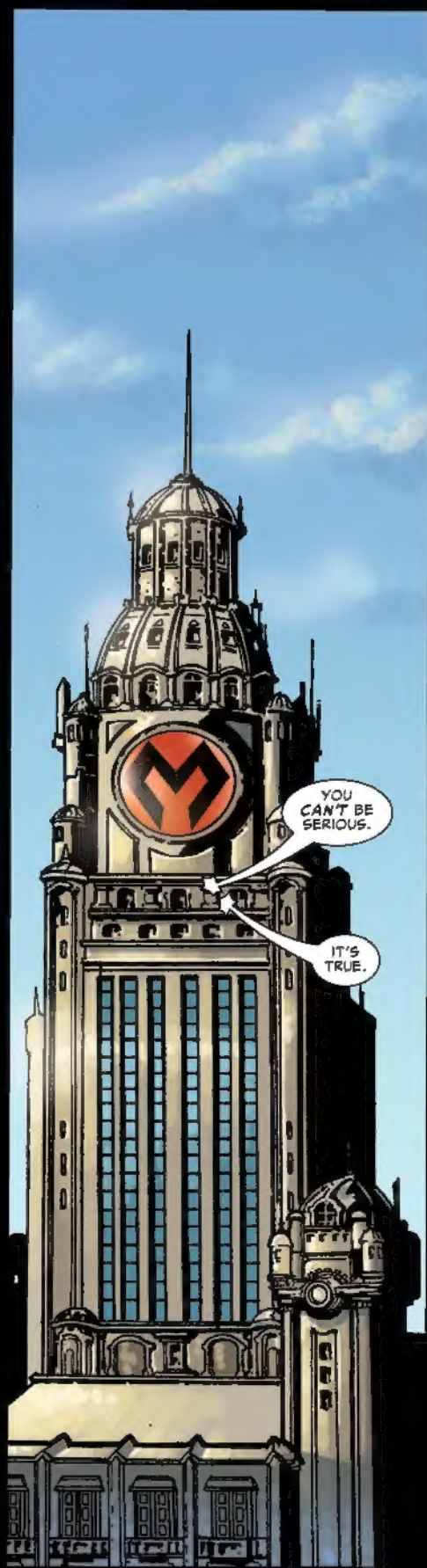
...I
DISAGREE.

AAAAA









DR. ISAACS HERE IS CLEARLY TRYING TO COVER HIS TRACKS. I HAD NO IDEA OF THE EXISTENCE OF THIS CYBORG ARMY.

MOTHER, FOR THE LOVE OF--!

DR. LAZLO CONFESSED THE WHOLE THING TO ME BEFORE COMMITTING SUICIDE RATHER THAN ANSWERING FOR HIS ACTIONS.

THIS IS OUTRAGEOUS!

YOU PUT THIS... THING IN MY EAR!

SIMPLY TO MAKE SURE YOU WEREN'T GETTING INTO TROUBLE.

AND YOU HAD ME PUT HIM TO SLEEP WITH A TRIGGER WORD!

YES, I PUT A FAILSAFE INTO BRUCE'S MIND...OR AT LEAST I THOUGHT I DID. AND THEN TRIED TO USE IT TO DEFUSE A TENSE SITUATION.

AND CAN YOU BLAME ME? YOU'RE A WALKING NUCLEAR BOMB WITH AN ITCHY TRIGGER FINGER, BRUCE.

YOU'VE SPENT YEARS TRYING TO CONTROL THE HULK.

CAN YOU CONDEMN ME FOR DOING NO LESS?

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS.

IT'S TRUE.



I WANT ALL OF YOU OUT. OUT OF THIS CITY. OUT OF THE CONTINENT. ALL OF YOU...

...EXCEPT HER.



YOU'RE POINTING AT... ME, RIGHT?

NO. HER.

HER. YES.

HER, MY MOTHER.

YES. THE REST OF YOU, GET OUT.



THAT'S INSANE!!! I DON'T UNDERSTAND--?!

WHICH PART? "GET"? OR "OUT"?

BUT--



MONICA...ARE YOU CAPABLE OF RESTORING THE CYBORGS TO THEIR HUMANITY?

IT...WILL TAKE TIME, BUT YES.

GOOD. GET STARTED. EVERYONE ELSE REMOTELY CONNECTED WITH A.I.M. HAS AN HOUR TO GET GONE. SPREAD THE WORD.

NOW.



NOW!!!!



SO.

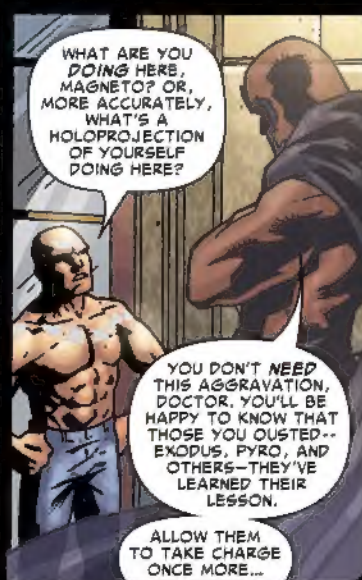
KEEPING
YOUR FRIENDS
CLOSE...



...AND MY
ENEMIES
CLOSER.

YOU'VE
READ "THE
ART OF
WAR."

NO, I'VE SEEN
"THE GODFATHER."
ACTUALLY, I'M
EXILING MY FRIENDS
AND BEDDING MY
ENEMY, SO...
ANYWAY.



WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE,
MAGNETO? OR,
MORE ACCURATELY,
WHAT'S A
HOLOPROJECTION
OF YOURSELF
DOING HERE?

YOU DON'T NEED
THIS AGGRAVATION,
DOCTOR. YOU'LL BE
HAPPY TO KNOW THAT
THOSE YOU OUSTED--
EXODUS, PYRO, AND
OTHERS--THEY'VE
LEARNED THEIR
LESSON.

ALLOW THEM
TO TAKE CHARGE
ONCE MORE...



...AND YOU CAN RETURN
TO THE ABORIGINES, TO
LIVE THE REST OF YOUR
LIFE UNMOLESTED.

THE HULK
WILL, I ASSURE
YOU, BE LEFT
ALONE.

WHAT
DO YOU
SAY?



WHAT
DO I
SAY?

I SAY... THAT I LIKE
BEING IN CHARGE. I
SAY I STILL HAVE
THINGS I HOPE TO
ACCOMPLISH. I
SAY...

...STAY THE HELL
OUT OF MY WAY, OR
I SWEAR, I WILL COME
DOWN LIKE THE FIST
OF GOD ON YOUR
HOUSE...

...AND MAKE
THIS OVER INTO
A WORLD WHERE
MUTANTS AREN'T
IN CHARGE.



WHAT AN
INTERESTING
WORLD... THAT
WOULD BE.



THE END.